UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/651
21 August 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 20 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to refer to our letter dated 5 August 1997 addressed to you transmitting a letter dated 2 August 1997 from Mr. Omar Mustafa Muntasser, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, concerning recent reports in the world news media to the effect that the United States of America has developed a new nuclear bomb (the B61-11) for use against targets in the Tarhunah area.

I should be grateful if you would have the letter in question circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abuzed Omar DORDA
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 2 August 1997 from the Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya addressed to the President of the Security Council

The world news media have recently reported that the United States of America has developed a new nuclear bomb designed to penetrate underground facilities and installations and that the development of the bomb, known as the B61-11, was expedited so that it could be used against specific targets in the Tarhunah area of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Accusations against Libya have become an integral part of the established United States policy of seeking to undermine the stability of the country. You may be aware that recent years have seen a spate of accusations by the United States against Libya, including the charge that we have built secret underground installations in the Tarhunah area for the manufacture of chemical weapons. We proved to the world the falsehood of such allegations when it became clear that what was under construction in the Tarhunah area was merely a tunnel for water from the Great Man-Made River project without the remotest connection with military installations or anything of the kind.

This has not been the first such accusation. In the past, the United States Administration made the selfsame accusation in connection with the Rabtah complex. It was subsequently shown to the world that the plant was manufacturing medicinal drugs and related precursors, that this was the purpose for which it had originally been established and that it had no connection with any alleged chemical weapons.

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya regards this new American weapon as a clear threat to its security and integrity and as reflecting the continued hostile and hegemonistic policy of the United States authorities, particularly since the weapon is primarily directed against us.

This dangerous development can only lead to increased tension in international relations. We are therefore prompted to request you officially to bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and to have it circulated as a Council document.

(Signed) Omar Mustafa MUNTASSER
Secretary of the General People's
Committee for Foreign Liaison and
International Cooperation